

News Release

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KPD answers FAQs regarding stay-at-home order

Kaua'i police are asking the public to please consider the nature of their non-emergency calls before contacting dispatch at 241-1711.

"Our dispatchers are receiving a significant volume of calls every day regarding questions related to the emergency orders established by the Governor and Mayor," said Kaua'i Police Chief Todd G. Raybuck. "We appreciate the public's desire to follow the law; however, each call requesting clarification on the orders places a significant strain on our dispatch center to answer 911 and non-emergency public safety calls."

To help decrease the number of calls, KPD dispatchers have published a question and answer document that lists some of the most frequently asked questions they've been receiving.

For those who still have unanswered questions, most answers can be found at kauai.gov (click on the red COVID-19 box). For further clarification, questions can also be answered at the Kaua'i Emergency Management Agency at 241-1800.

COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions – KPD Dispatch:

Paying bills

Can I go out and pay my utility bills?

Yes, if you are unable to pay your bills electronically and as long as you practice social distancing and avoid going out if you are feeling sick. If you are sick, make other arrangements to have someone make your payments. Please note that some utility offices are closed to the public right now, including KIUC.

Can I go to the bank and pay my car loan?

Yes, if you are unable to pay your bills electronically and as long as you practice social distancing and avoid going out if you are feeling sick.

Can I travel to my place of business to pick up my paycheck?

Yes, if you do not have direct deposit, you may travel to your workplace to pick up your check or request that your employer mail the check to you.

Recreation

Can I go to a county park to exercise/run around the field?

Yes, as long as you are practicing social distancing and participating in a solo outdoor activity, or small group with proper social distancing, such as running, walking, surfing, swimming, etc. No team sports, such as soccer, basketball, football, baseball, etc., are allowed. Also, no sunbathing or picnics at parks and beaches are allowed at this time.

Can I walk my dog near the beach?

Yes, as long as you obey all leash laws and practice social distancing. Do not leave your house if you are feeling ill and make arrangements for someone else to walk your dog.

I have a permit for the beach, can I go even though there is a stay-at-home order and road checkpoints?

Yes, however, no picnicking or sunbathing is allowed in the park or beach. You must be engaging in solo exercising or exercise that involves good social distancing (walking, running, swimming, surfing, etc.). No team sport activities (football, baseball, soccer, etc.) are allowed.

Vehicle Maintenance

Can I bring my car to the mechanic?

Yes, having your vehicle repaired is allowed, as long as you practice social distancing and avoid going out if you are feeling sick. If you are sick, make other arrangements to have someone take your vehicle to the mechanic.

Since the DMV is closed, how can I renew my vehicle registration and what if it is expired?

There remain several ways to pay registration renewals and sewer payments. The county will still be accepting payments through the drop box window located to the right of the glass doors at the Kapule building and mail will still be processed timely. The Safeway kiosks remain open, as well as the online payment methods for sewer and vehicle registration renewals, both of which are free for public use. Motor vehicle registration payments are also accepted at https://mvr.ehawaii.gov/renewals/kauai.

Essential Work

Is there a permit for essential workers? I am an essential worker, what are the rules during curfew hours?

No permits are being issued at this time. Please have your employer type up a form stating that your company is an essential business; your current job assignment; and the areas on Kaua'i that you have to perform essential work. During curfew hours you are able to travel to and from work.

I am a landscaper, can I go to work?

Only if your landscaping position is essential per the emergency rule and involves emergencyrelated activities like clearing out fallen trees or any other public safety matters. It does not pertain to routine garden maintenance.

My neighbors have construction workers and gardeners on their property, is that allowed?

Building construction is not allowed, including new home construction and renovations, unless work performed supports COVID-19 pandemic response (affordable housing, healthcare facility, etc.). Regular lawn care and maintenance is considered non-essential and is not allowed.

I deliver food to farmer's markets and other establishments, is this essential business? Yes, selling baked goods, produce, etc., is allowed just remember to maintain social distancing.

I'm a landscaper and a tree fell in my client's yard, can I take care of it?

Yes, in the interest of homeowner and public safety, the tree should be removed. Regular lawn care and maintenance is considered non-essential and is not allowed.

I own a cleaning business, can I check on empty houses for my clients since no one will be staying in them for a few weeks?

Yes, only to check for potential leaks.

Can I continue to appraise houses?

Yes, appraisers are considered essential.

Can I sell fish on the side of the road?

Yes, as long as you maintain social distancing.

What kind of construction is considered essential and what is non-essential?

Construction of affordable housing units is considered essential. Repair work performed by plumbers, roofers and electricians for necessary repairs on homes and essential businesses is allowed. All other construction that does not support COVID-19 recovery efforts is considered non-essential, including new home construction that is not affordable.

Grocery shopping

Some grocery stores are letting in 50 people at a time, is that too many?

They should be following Emergency Rule #5, Update #1, which allows for additional shoppers based on total square footage of the store.

Can I go shopping for food? Can I pick-up my friend with no car and take them shopping for food with me?

Yes, you can go shopping for food. You can pick up your friend as long as neither one of you are sick and practice social distancing. If you are sick, make other arrangements to have someone assist with picking up your groceries.

Can I still shop for groceries?

Yes, grocery shopping and picking up medication is allowed under the rule, as long as you practice social distancing and avoid going out if you are feeling sick.

<u>Keiki</u>

Can I pick-up children's schoolwork packets without a driver's license?

Parents need to work with DOE, their child's teacher and other parents for assistance in picking up and delivering school work.

Can I still visit DOE Feeding Sites to pick-up food for my children?

Yes, this is an essential activity.

<u>Moving</u>

I'm moving homes, can I still move and pass through KPD checkpoints?

Yes, as long as you are moving and practicing proper social distancing.

Can moving companies have their customers pick up freight?

No. Personal furniture for homes is non-essential.

Healthcare

I have an appointment at Wilcox at Kaua'i Medical Clinic, can I still go?

Yes, practice good social distancing upon arrival. Call ahead and notify your physician to see if your appointment can be handled through Telehealth. Stay home and reschedule your appointment if you are feeling sick.

Can someone drop me off at my medical appointment while they go grocery shopping?

Yes, grocery shopping is allowed, as long as you practice good social distancing. Stay home if either of you are feeling sick or make other arrangements.

Can I pick-up medicine?

Yes, if you are sick, however, make other arrangements to have someone pick up your groceries and medication.

Solid waste disposal

Can I go to the dump?

Yes, as long as you practice social distancing and avoid going out if you are feeling sick. However, please remember only disposal of solid waste items resulting from essential activity, in observance of Emergency Rule #5, is allowed.

KPD Checkpoints

What are the rules at the checkpoints?

Allowable activities: traveling from your home to work at an essential business and job function; grocery shopping; doctor's appointment; outdoor activity, such as surfing, swimming, running, walking, etc.; filling up your vehicles with gas; picking up medication from a pharmacy; feeding animals on private property or taking them to the vet; etc.

No sightseeing or cruising is allowed, including motorcycle 'joy rides.'

Where can I find more answers to my questions?

You can find all of the Mayor's Emergency Rules and Proclamations on the county's website: www.kauai.gov/covid-19.

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